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E LA SUA SCUOLA

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Al Ch. Prof. Augusto Guidi
omaggio dell'Autore
e Buon Capo d'anno.

MANZONI

E LA SUA SCUOLA

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CON APPENDICE

DI DUE LETTERE E UNA POESIA

DELLO STESSO MANZONI

REGGIO (CALABRIA)
STAMPERIA SICLARI
1873

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Proprietà Letteraria

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ALLA GIOVENTÙ STUDIOSA
DELLA MIA REGGIO
PERCHÈ
NEL CONCETTO RINNOVATORE
DI
ALESSANDRO MANZONI
SI RIGENERI E CRESCA
CASTA GENEROSA FECONDA
DEGNA D'ITALIA

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I.

Il 22 maggio p. p. morì in Milano Alessandro Manzoni pieno di anni e di meriti verso la gran madre Italia. La quale, quant' è dall' Alpi al Lilibeo, questa volta senza distinzione di *reale* e *legale*, si scosse tutta a quell' annunzio in un sentimento comune di condoglianza e in manifestazioni di onore e di lutto, le più sentite e splendide che furono mai viste in gente civile alla morte di benemerito cittadino.

Egli già da tempo riconosciuto e dentro e fuori Italia sovrano ingegno, che con pochi ma stupendi lavori di critica e d'arte ha potentemente ristorato in meglio la

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letteratura italiana del secolo decimonono, dandole un risveglio e un impulso conveniente all' indole sua, alle sane ragioni dell' arte e a' progressi delle nazioni sorelle; pacifico possessore per lunghi anni di tale incontrastato dominio sul proprio secolo, fu, come dice il Cantù, *più venerato che onorato* da tre generazioni di viventi che gli passarono innanzi durante la longeva sua vita quasi nonagenaria. Cominciato giovine quadrilustre (1) la sua carriera letteraria coi primi anni del secolo nostro in mezzo a una plejade numerosa d' illustri scrittori, adoperantisi ciascuno per la parte sua e giusta il suo vario concetto al risorgimento e al lustro delle patrie lettere, ebbe la forza singolare fra tutti di farsene capo e guida e determinarne l' indirizzo secondo il vero concetto che ei se ne foggiò

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(1) A venti anni cioè nel 1805 scrisse la prima cosa che fu di lui pubblicata, il sonetto a Francesco Lomonaco: nel 1806 i Versi in morte dell' Imbonati, e nel 1807 il poemetto d' Urania. V. De Gubernatis, *Rivista Europea*, che dice: « in quei tre anni nacque veramente all' Italia il nuovo Manzoni. »

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